SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT
JUNE 30, 2003

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State of South Carolina



Office of the State Auditor

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

December 19, 2003

The Honorable Mark Sanford, Governor and Mr. Jon Ozmint, Director South Carolina Department of Corrections 4444 Broad River Road Columbia, South Carolina 29221

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the management of the South Carolina Department of Corrections (the Department), solely to assist you in evaluating the performance of the Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, in the areas addressed. The Department's management is responsible for its financial records, internal controls and compliance with State laws and regulations. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified parties in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. Cash Receipts and Revenues

- We inspected selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were properly described and classified in the accounting records and internal controls over the selected receipt transactions were adequate to detect errors and/or irregularities.
- We inspected selected recorded receipts to determine if these receipts were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
- We compared amounts recorded in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers to those in the State's accounting system (STARS) as reflected on the Comptroller General's reports to determine if recorded revenues were in agreement.
- We made inquiries and performed substantive procedures to determine if revenue collection and retention or remittance were supported by law.
- We compared current year recorded revenues from sources other than State General Fund appropriations to those of the prior year to evaluate the reasonableness of collected and recorded amounts by revenue account.

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The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. Our finding as a result of these procedures is presented in Prison Industries Deposits in the Accountant's Comments section of this report.

2. Non-Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures

- We inspected selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records, were bona fide disbursements of the Department, and were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations; if the acquired goods and/or services were procured in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; and if internal controls over the selected disbursement transactions were adequate to detect errors and/or irregularities.
- We inspected selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were recorded in the proper fiscal year.
- We compared amounts recorded in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers to those in various STARS reports to determine if recorded expenditures were in agreement.
- We compared current year expenditures to those of the prior year to determine the reasonableness of amounts paid and recorded by expenditure account.

The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

3. Payroll Disbursements and Expenditures

- We inspected selected recorded payroll disbursements to determine if the selected payroll transactions were properly described, classified, and distributed in the accounting records; persons on the payroll were bona fide employees; payroll transactions, including employee payroll deductions, were properly authorized and were in accordance with existing legal requirements; and internal controls over the selected payroll transactions were adequate to detect errors and/or irregularities.
- We inspected selected payroll vouchers to determine if the vouchers were properly approved and if the gross payroll agreed to amounts recorded in the general ledger and in STARS.
- We inspected payroll transactions for selected new employees and those who terminated employment to determine if internal controls over these transactions were adequate.
- We compared amounts recorded in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers to those in various STARS reports to determine if recorded payroll and fringe benefit expenditures were in agreement.
- We compared current year recorded payroll expenditures to those of the prior year; compared the percentage change in recorded personal service expenditures to the percentage change in employer contributions; and computed the percentage distribution of recorded fringe benefit expenditures by fund source and compared the computed distribution to the actual distribution of recorded payroll expenditures by fund source to determine if recorded payroll and fringe benefit expenditures were reasonable by expenditure account.

The individual transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

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4. **Journal Entries and Appropriation Transfers**

We inspected selected recorded journal entries and all appropriation transfers
to determine if these transactions were properly described and classified in
the accounting records; they agreed with the supporting documentation, were
adequately documented and explained, were properly approved, and were
mathematically correct; and the internal controls over these transactions were
adequate to detect errors and/or irregularities.

The journal entries selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

5. General Ledger and Subsidiary Ledgers

 We inspected selected entries and monthly totals in the subsidiary records of the Department to determine if the amounts were mathematically accurate; the numerical sequences of selected document series were complete; the selected monthly totals were accurately posted to the general ledger; and the internal controls over the selected transactions were adequate to detect errors and/or irregularities.

The transactions selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

6. **Reconciliations**

• We obtained all monthly reconciliations prepared by the Department for the year ended June 30, 2003, and inspected selected reconciliations of balances in the Department's accounting records to those in STARS as reflected on the Comptroller General's reports to determine if they were accurate and complete. For the selected reconciliations, we determined if they were timely performed and properly documented in accordance with State regulations, recalculated the amounts, agreed the applicable amounts to the Department's general ledger, agreed the applicable amounts to the STARS reports, determined if reconciling differences were adequately explained and properly resolved, and determined if necessary adjusting entries were made in the Department's accounting records and/or in STARS.

The reconciliations selected were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

7. Compliance

 We confirmed through inspection of payroll and non-payroll disbursement vouchers, cash receipts and other documents, inquiry of agency personnel and/or observation of agency personnel performing their assigned duties the Department's compliance with all applicable financial provisions of the South Carolina Code of Laws, Appropriation Act, and other laws, rules, and regulations for fiscal year 2003.

Our finding as a result of these procedures is presented in Prison Industries Deposits in the Accountant's Comments section of this report.

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8. Closing Packages

 We obtained copies of all closing packages as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, prepared by the Department and submitted to the State Comptroller General. We inspected them to determine if they were prepared in accordance with the Comptroller General's <u>GAAP Closing Procedures</u> <u>Manual</u> requirements; if the amounts were reasonable; and if they agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

9. Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance

 We obtained a copy of the schedule of federal financial assistance for the year ended June 30, 2003, prepared by the Department and submitted to the State Auditor. We inspected it to determine if it was prepared in accordance with the State Auditor's letter of instructions; if the amounts were reasonable; and if they agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records.

We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

10. Status of Prior Findings

• We inquired about the status of the deficiencies described in the finding reported in the Accountant's Comments section of the State Auditor's Report on the Department resulting from our engagement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001, to determine if adequate corrective action has been taken. (We applied no procedures to the Department's accounting records and internal controls for the year ended June 30, 2002.)

Our finding as a result of these procedures is presented in Prison Industries Deposits in the Accountant's Comments section of this report.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified areas, accounts, or items. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor and of the management of the Department and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

State Auditor



<u>SECTION A - MATERIAL WEAKNESS AND/OR VIOLATION OF STATE LAWS, RULES OR REGULATIONS</u>

The procedures agreed to by the agency require that we plan and perform the engagement to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the requirements of State Laws, Rules, or Regulations occurred and whether internal accounting controls over certain transactions were adequate. Management of the entity is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Therefore, the presence of a material weakness or violation will preclude management from asserting that the entity has effective internal controls.

The condition described in this section has been identified as a material weakness or violation of State Laws, Rules, or Regulations.

PRISON INDUSTRIES DEPOSITS

We tested a sample of five cash receipts pertaining to the Department's Prison Industries Division to determine if the receipts were timely deposited. Because the Division does not record receipt dates, we estimated the date funds were received using check dates. We found that several checks were written over one week and up to five weeks prior to deposit. Proviso 72.1 of the fiscal year 2003 Appropriation Act requires receipts to be deposited at least once each week when practical. A similar finding was noted in our prior State Auditor's Report.

We again recommend that the Prison Industries Division document receipt dates for all of its cash receipts. The Division should modify its accounting system and/or receipt procedures as necessary in order to ensure that it deposits all receipts at least weekly in accordance with State law.

SECTION B - STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

During the current engagement, we reviewed the status of corrective action taken on the finding reported in the Accountant's Comments section of the State Auditor's Report on the Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001, and dated June 14, 2002. (We applied no procedures to the Department's accounting records and internal controls for the year ended June 30, 2002.) We determined that the Department has not taken adequate corrective action on the finding.



MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES AUDIT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

1. PRISON INDUSTRIES DEPOSITS

This is the third consecutive year that the Department has been cited for failure to deposit Prison Industries receipts in a timely manner. Prison Industries will be required to prepare a log of daily receipts and then deposit those receipts in a timely manner. This procedure will be reviewed by the Department's Internal Audit staff.

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